## **NEWS FROM SCDCA**

**South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs** 



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

May 23, 2007 Release #07-038 SCDCA Media Contact: Alice Brooks, 803.734.4190 1.800.922.1594 (toll free in SC)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs Presents 2007 Consumer Spirit Awards

The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) announced the <u>recipients of the 2007</u> Consumer Spirit Awards today at a Statehouse ceremony.

Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, SCDCA Administrator, and Dr. Lonnie Randolph, Commission Chairman, presented awards to three honorees: **Heather Sullivan**, WSPA-TV, Spartanburg; **Jean Rinehardt Bridges**, West Columbia; and **The Honorable Linda Short**, State Senator, Chester. (*Editor's Note*: Bios of the three recipients are attached.)

The *Consumer Spirit Award* was established in 2005, during the SCDCA's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to honor an individual or organization that has made a substantial contribution to the citizens and consumers of South Carolina. The awards program was so well-received that DCA staff voted to bring it back and make it an annual event.

Nominations were received from organizations and persons statewide, according to Pinkston. "We're very pleased with the response for this award," she said. "South Carolina citizens are doing a lot to advocate, educate, and help each other in consumer issues."

Dr. Randolph praised volunteers and staff for conceiving an awards program that so accurately reflects the mission of the SCDCA. "One person, one organization, that's all it takes for a positive change to occur," he said. "That's what we're celebrating here – positive impact in the lives of South Carolina consumers."

For more information on the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs or the Consumer Spirit Awards, contact the Public Information Division at 803.734.4190, toll free in SC at 1.800.922.1594, or online at <a href="https://www.scconsumer.gov">www.scconsumer.gov</a>.

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5-24-07/ajb